03HQAG0149
2003 Category 1: Metadata Implementation Project
Final Report

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Collaborating organization:

Cape Cod Commission, Gary Prahm

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Number of metadata files resulting from project: 72

Clearinghouse service:
Datasets documented by the Cape Cod commission are presently being shared via MassGIS
(http://www.mass.gov/mgis/massgis.htm). Datasets documented by Silent Spring Institute will be
available on the Institute's clearinghouse node which is currently under development.

Metadata documentation is a standard part of Silent Spring Institute's operating procedures for
projects involving the creation or amendment of GIS data.

Number of individuals trained: 23

Workshop information:

The training was very well received, and to our knowledge is the first such training event in MA.
We conducted one training session on Cape Cod (at the Cape Cod Community College) in order
to train users who were unfamiliar with FGDC metadata standards. I will forward a list of
participants by email.

Project narrative:
The project objectives were 1) conduct the first ever public training event for FGDC metadata
creation in MA, b) Document new health and environment datasets created or updated by Silent
Spring Institute that contribute to GIS infrastructure for Cape Cod, and c) Document existing and
new basemap datasets created and maintained by the Cape Cod Commission for the Cape Cod
region. The metadata training session was conducted on Cape Cod in January and hosted 25
participants from various local and regional organizations. Participants from Silent Spring

Institute and the Cape Cod Commission attended the training, and subsequently used their skills to create metadata for 72 datasets relating to the Cape Cod region of Southeastern Massachusetts. Feedback on the training and subsequent work has highlighted the need for more targeted training - i.e. splitting the larger group into focus groups, enabling the development of more specialized skills in ISITE implementation, metadata to!
 ols, or clearinghouse use.

Program feedback:
Without assistance from the Don't Duck Metadata program, Silent Spring Institute, a small non-profit, could not have allocated resources to creating metadata, even though its importance to the re-use of the data was fully recognized. The program has allowed us to share our training with other local organizations, including the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, the Cape Cod Commission, MassGIS, and the Cape Cod Community College - who likewise were interested in metadata, but unable to justify investment in individual training programs. Training feedback was overwhelmingly positive, although several participants would have preferred more target training, as indicated above. The ability to create FGDC metadata within our organization has enabled us to start the process of becoming our own node on the NSDI. This is important to the institute as our investment in spatial data continues to grow, and interest from external parties in sharing our resources!
  Grows also. I think that the metadata grants strike a good balance between the number of people funded, and the amount of the funding. While initially we did not consider teaming with a regional organization to apply for the grant, we realize now what a benefit it is to participants - we were able to share coordination and experiences with local organization, and as such, gain valuable contacts and insight into other GIS operational protocols. Thank you!